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SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

A third Kenya record of Jouanin's Petrel *Bulweria fallax*

On 3 December 1991 I collected an emaciated specimen of *Bulweria fallax* approximately 3 km offshore and 8 km north of Mtwapa Creek, Kenya. This is the furthest south that the species has been recorded off the East African coast. The bird was unable to fly as its plumage was waterlogged and no longer water-resistant. Flight feathers and the plumage generally was so worn and tattered that it must have greatly reduced the bird's powers of flight. Exceptions were the first and second secondaries which were new and still partially sheathed, as were several rectrices. The specimen died in the night after capture and has been deposited in the Ornithological Department of the National Museums of Kenya in Nairobi (specimen No. 911223A).

The state of this petrel's plumage suggested that it had been incapable of flight for some time—certainly many days and perhaps weeks. The prevailing current was flowing to the north and running, at that time, at an estimated 3 knots (c. 5.6 km h⁻¹). Prevailing winds were ESE and had been generally southerly through the preceding month at least. There is thus an implicit suggestion that the bird may have become flightless at a point much further south of where it was collected. That the species does, in fact, range far further south than the present three Kenya coastal records is confirmed by A. D. Forbes-Watson (pers. comm.) who handled a specimen that came aboard ship between Aldabra and Mahé in 1990. It would not be surprising, therefore, if the species

is not recorded even further south along the Kenya coast and, possibly, from Tanzanian waters as well in due course.

Single specimens of Wedge-tailed Shearwater *Puffinus pacificus* are not unusual in December off Mtwapa but, between 30 November and 5 December 1991 they were present with most mixed tern flocks feeding at bonito "boils". Numbers seen ranged from singles to 12 at a feeding site, and two or three together were common. Fishing the same area on 16 and 17 December no *P. pacificus* were recorded, but a solitary Audubon's Shearwater *P. lherminieri* was seen.

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Notes on birds from southwest Tanzania including an addition to the East African avifauna

On 27 July 1990 an overnight visit was made to the village of Mumba (08°10S, 31°51E), about 35 km southeast of Sumbawanga town on the road to Tunduma, southwestern Tanzania. The general habitat is short montane grassland on gently undulating terrain 1900-2300 m above sea level. This area is drained by a number of small, clear streams that join to form the Mumba Stream.

Around the source of the Mumba and along its tributaries are extensive reed beds in which are found a number of interesting birds species. Red-chested Pygmy Crake *Sarothrura rufa*, was common here: at least ten birds were heard calling along a 1-km stretch of reeds. The Little Rush Warbler *Bradypterus baboecala*, Stout Cisticola *Cisticola robusta*, African Marsh Owl *Asio capensis*, and Cape Grass Owl *Tyto capensis*, were also common. One of the more interesting species recorded in the reeds, however, was the Chirping Cisticola *Cisticola pipiens*. This species was very common; at least 15 individuals in several family parties were observed in a 10-ha area. On a previous visit to this locality (Moyer & Stjernstedt 1985), a number of Chirping Cisticolas were observed and their unmistakable call heard; however, no descriptions, photographs, or recordings were made, and their occurrence in East Africa remained subject to confirmation. On this visit two individuals were netted, and voucher specimens were prepared (Table 1).

Table 1. Measurements (g and mm) of two specimens of Chirping Cisticola *Cisticola pipiens* from southwestern Tanzania

weight	sex	wing (flat)	tail	tarsus	maxilla (from skull)	mandible (from gonyes)
13.5	imm. F	57	69	20.9	15.4	7.1
14.5g	ad. M	65	76	22.9	17.4	8.9

Another species tentatively reported from montane grassland at Mumba by Moyer & Stjernstedt (1985) was the Angola Lark *Mirafra angolensis*. The admission of this